









Instructor Quincy, who had apparently been sent to Canton on behalf of the authorities to make investigations regarding the outbreak of cholera, has written informing the Government that cholera is raging with extreme virulence in that city.

To-morrow morning, between 9 and 10.30 o'clock, the steam-launch *Daypring*, carrying the *Bethel* flag, will call alongside any vessel hoisting code pennant C, to convey men ashore to 11 a.m. service at St. Peter's (Bosman's) Church, returning about 12.30.

A special jury has been summoned for the Special Sessions on Tuesday next, when *Edison Crowe*, artist mate of the *Nova Scotia* ship *Schick*, will be tried on a charge of causing the death of a seaman named John Kennedy on the high seas on March 13th last.

At the Magistracy to-day the master of the *Tai Yuen* ship was charged by Mr. Geo. Malton, Public Works Department, with allowing water to be wasted in his house at 20 Queen's Road East on 22nd June. The defendant pleaded he had received no notice that the tap was leaking. He was, therefore, dismissed.

At the Magistracy this morning, Mr. John Andrew, commission agent, charged a coolie with leaving his service without giving due notice. The accused was engaged at \$7.50 a month on the 22nd June, but left abruptly on the 27th. Yesterday he turned up again at Mount Austin Hotel, was very insolent and demanded payment for the few days he had worked. The case was dismissed.

The Amateur Dramatic Club had, we learn, decided to put on the pantomime of 'Robinson Crusoe' next Christmas, this piece having been selected for them by Major Clayton, the stage manager of the two previous pantomimes, 'Alf Baba' and 'Beauty and the Beast', but at the last moment we hear that the City Hall Committee hold out for terms for the use of the theatre which the A. D. C. do not see their way to accept. As for some years past all the profits made by the Dramatic Club have gone to the improvement of the theatre or to local charities, it seems to us that the City Hall Committee might stretch a point or two, and meet the wishes of our local Theatians, whose Christmas shows, for some years past, have been looked forward to and been much appreciated by the public.

This morning, Mr. H. V. Cox, assistant to Messrs A. S. Watson, Limited, Hongkong Dispensary, was found dead in his room above the Dispensary. Mr. Cox ought to have been on duty at 7 o'clock, but as he failed to put in an appearance a Chinese assistant went to his room to call him about half-an-hour later, when the discovery was made that Mr. Cox was dead. The body was taken charge of by the police, and a post-mortem examination will be held on the body to-morrow. It is believed that the cause of death was an overdose of prussic acid. Mr. Cox was in the habit of indulging in narcotics, being of a highly nervous temperament and troubled with sleeplessness. He was a native of Hampshire, and came to the Colony nearly three years ago. The funeral will pass the Monument at 4 p.m. to-morrow (Sunday).

The annual cricket match between Oxford and Cambridge Universities commences on Monday next.

Mr. Labouchere thanks Heaven the birthday of Her Majesty is over, and that he is safe for another year. Since the Queen has taken to celebrating her natal day by lighting up or bonneting those connected with journalism, 'tis true the day is observed with fear and trembling.

PAULINE HEARD d'Orleans has left Paris for Madagascar, and, after spending two months there, will go back to Annam and Tonkin for a second tour through those countries and Cambodia. The young Prince, who will be accompanied by Prince de Siam, expects to be back in France about this time next year.

# FRAGRANT WATERS' URMUR.

That I mentioned last week that I had been puzzled to discover what the Governor had been doing about the Plague. That Mr. J. J. Francis, Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board, has come forward to explain matters, but in all honesty let me say he has merely increased the difficulty (the previous puzzle and looked on to another. That the second puzzle is, what did possibly have been his object in writing to 'explain,' as he called it, and the following matters exactly as they were.

That Mr. Francis told much of what the body has done—the new history which has arisen from thence—Phon—the Governor of this town of the subject. Q. Q. C. references the Colony—but the Governor himself were looking on, and this had been 'doing well.'

That Mr. J. J. Francis, and alleges that the Governor (or Government, which is the same thing) might have stood by and criticised found fault, but that His Excellency finally did not do so, but allowed some officials to assist the Permanent Committee.

That the monthly Q. C. does usually fail to make his point, when the is any point to make; and I fancy a community thought Mr. F. was patently sarcastic when he added, 'I make him to say that the Governor has done well.'

That it would have been a great pleasure to me personally to have entered my approval of this assertion, had there been anything whatever to support it.

That His Excellency's despatch showed pretty plainly what he had been doing—viz., sending telegrams to and writing despatches for the Colonial Office.

That the despatch of the 20th June, which you published, gives the information which Mr. Francis wanted to give me, and forgot to impart, owing to his natural admiration of the action of the new Sanitary Phoenix.

That it was a pity the Governor erroneously telegraphed the name of the Shropshire private who died, as much unnecessary pain may result from such errors.

That the despatch has, I see, been fully criticised, and amply credited with all kinds of merits.

That it certainly makes an attempt to explain a great deal, and in some cases attempts too much.

That if the Governor had gone to the scene of operations, and inspired with his manly presence all those, medical and others, who were in the thick of the fight, he would have done more good than by writing fifty despatches.

That if he had seen with his own eyes that place which he calls the Glass Works Hospital, his despatch must have been worded very differently.

That it may be the removal of patients to Canton, after that awful muddle was permitted, was excusable; but it could never be justified, upon any known medical or administrative ground.

That a great deal of capital has been made out of the semi-religious regard of the dead entertained by the Chinese, and it is pretty well known the natives bestow far greater care on the dead than on the living.

That, even granting that we are expected to observe the greatest respect for native ideas and customs, it cannot be argued with reason that during a serious crisis care for the dead can take precedence of the care and cure of the living.

That, notwithstanding many rumours about successful cures effected by native doctors, the actual experience of hospitals managed by natives is that treatment and attendance are practically ignored, and the labelling of coffins is everything.

That it is but too true, I fear, even the officious and interference of the dead are abandoned altogether by the terrified natives, when an epidemic produces a panic.

That the Government of Hongkong, having once given way to the prejudices of the Chinese, appear to be undecided as to what to do next; they agree to do one thing to-day, and refuse to do the same thing to-morrow.

That it is not my desire to assist panic or to increase the difficulties of the Government, but it would be a hopeful sign if some rule of consistency and firmness were to be discoverable in the attitude of the Administration.

That the delay in connection with the reconstruction and re-modelling of Tai-pingshan may have occasioned by the various Committees engaged in examining into the facts.

That I hear the Ordinance on the stocks are comprehensive and of course big in proportion, and that some discussion may be looked for over their provisions.

That some additional stipulations, I observe, have been inserted into the conditions of sale of Crown land advertised to take place on Monday.

That these alterations were made, I learn, by the permanent Committee, acting independently of the P.W.D., as the officers immediately concerned would have no notice of suggestions made and declined to take any responsibility.

That every one would gladly regard the plague as stayed, had we only sufficient data to go upon—I mean as to the Chinese who still remain, the cases permitted to leave or which are removed without permission, those which occur here, and so forth.

That it strikes me to be impossible to deal with such a matter unless the number of cases are known, and if cases unreported are removed, the true figures cannot be obtained.

That it is to be regretted two of the Japanese Medical Delegates have developed the disease, and have been removed to the *Hygiea*.

That among the brighter spots of this dark picture is the Kennedy-town Hospital, where the Sisters of the Civil Hospital have been, from the beginning of the trouble, doing quiet but noble and exceedingly plucky work throughout.

That amongst all the workers in this sad business none deserve a more hearty and appreciative word of commendation than those women whose services have done so much to brighten the Kennedy-town, and to stimulate others to the performance of duty.

That I hear three patients have been discharged from Kennedy-town to-day, and two of those have remained in the hospital, to undertake service as attendants in that institution.

That I hear legal action is to be taken to compel holders of Invari scrip to pay up calls thereon.

tion felt over the entire business, that the assets of the Company should be realised before the extreme step of legal action is taken against holders of scrip in the Far East.

## BROWNIE.

### THE PLAGUE IN HONGKONG.

Yesterday afternoon a special meeting of the Committee of the General Chamber of Commerce was convened to consider whether any representation should be made to the Governor in consequence of the very strong feeling existing amongst the Chinese with regard to the house-to-house visitation and the cleaning of houses, which, it was maintained, was carried on in a manner that gave rise to a great amount of unnecessary annoyance to the Chinese. Another matter which the Committee considered was the representation that a great amount of displeasure exists amongst the Chinese at the harm done by the establishment of a cordon round the Harbour with a view to keep up the records of plague cases. The Chinese have apparently jumped to the conclusion that they were to be prevented from landing at Lai-chi-kok Hospital. The Committee, after discussing the subject with it, it is stated, every desire to uphold in every possible way the Governor's action in this emergency, deputed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman (Hon. J. J. Francis and Mr. E. Mackintosh) to wait upon the Governor and lay the views of the Committee before him. Our information is that His Excellency has promised to reconsider the regulations with a view to modification so far as practicable, and that he will issue a proclamation assuring the Chinese that there is no intention whatever of preventing them from going to Lai-chi-kok or to any other point on the mainland. The opinion has been expressed that not only are these regulations ill-considered but that a manifest mistake was made in adopting and endorsing all the action of the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board without due consideration by the Governor and the Executive Council.

The following communication has been received by Mr. Francis, Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board:—

Custom House, Canton, 27.6.94.  
J. J. Francis, Esq., Q.C., Hongkong.  
Dear Sir,—The Canton Philharmonic Society intends to give a Concert at the Club Hall, Shamoon, on the 30th instant, for the benefit of the brave men who are fighting the plague in Hongkong. On the principle of 'Ea dat qui cito dat' and encouraged by the numerous applications for tickets, I am sending enclosed a crossed cheque for \$50 (fifty dollars). Will you be kind enough to see that it is used for the best purpose and for the benefit of the most deserving? The rest of the proceeds will be sent to you on Monday.

Although the sum is small we hope it will be accepted in the spirit it is sent, showing the sympathy and appreciation of the Foreign Community of Canton.

Yours faithfully,  
C. PAPE,  
Hon. Sec. & Treasurer,  
Canton Philharmonic Society.

Mr. Francis has forwarded the following reply:—

Permanent Committee, Sanitary Board, 30.6.94.  
Dear Sir,—The Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board acknowledge with hearty thanks your letter of the 27th inst. and the cheque for \$50 that accompanied that letter.

Your idea is an excellent one and most excellently carried out, and this Committee will do all in its power to apply your gift to the best advantage for the benefit of the brave men for whom it is intended and to make your thoughtful kindness as widely known as possible in the city and among the Garrison.

For your sympathy with us in our troubles and for your kind appreciation of the merits of those who have thrown themselves so gallantly into the work, the Committee equally thank you.—I have, &c.,  
J. J. FRANCIS,  
Chairman P.C.S.B.

The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Canton Philharmonic Society.

Dr. Verzin, the French specialist, has discovered the plague bacillus in dead rats found in infected houses.

We understand that the Hospital at Lai-chi-kok—which, by the way, is an old Yamen and not a mad-house as some old yesterday as it was a week ago. The building is capably adapted for the purposes of an epidemic hospital, if only it were kept clean. But the ingrained habits of the Chinese have already begun to show themselves, and the filthy condition of the patients begins to be painfully manifest. During the week it is stated (but the figures given by the man in charge are not quite reliable) there have been 314 cases, 104 deaths, and 104 had been sent to Canton. There were about a dozen deaths yesterday; but we have since heard that there were 179 cases there to-day and 38 deaths. The cemetery is about half a mile up the valley, and each separate grave is about 2 feet deep. The man in charge was anxious no obstacle should be placed in the way of patients coming from Hongkong.

There will be a general feeling of regret when it is learned that two of the Japanese agents who came to Hongkong a few weeks ago to study the various phases of the plague have fallen under the influence of the disease, and have had to be removed to the *Hygiea*. One is Professor Aoyama, the pathologist, who was Professor Kitasato's principal assistant in the discovery of the plague bacillus; the other is Dr. Teshigahara. One of them is reported to be very ill.

There have been a demonstration of plague bacillus and scientific instruments at the Government Civil Hospital this afternoon, but Dr. Lawson stone postponed the demonstration when it became known

that one of the scientific specialists from Japan had been infected through an accidental inoculation of plague virus.

On Thursday another batch of patients was despatched to Canton in one of the Viceroy's junks at the Governor's express orders. All the sick persons in the Pig and Sheep Depot were given an opportunity of leaving, but only 18 expressed a desire to be removed.

The Kennedy Town Hospital during the last few days, the wife and family of a Chinaman connected with the Registrar General's Department have been in constant attendance endeavouring to induce the patient to leave for Canton. The patient resolutely refused to be shifted, and addresses his sorrowing wife and family in anything but choice, though it may be classical, language.

Dr. Ayres, Colonial Surgeon, had a severe attack of English cholera last night, but was able to be about again this morning.

Mr. Allen, of the Hongkong Dispensary, is a little better to-day.

We believe that Mr. Fung Wa Chen, on behalf of himself and a number of wealthy Chinese merchants and traders, made an application to the Governor to be allowed to send sick people to the mainland after they had been first taken to a receiving hospital in the Colony.

The Governor refused to sanction the proposal. The petitioners proposed to bear the whole expense, and were willing to maintain a Hospital in the Colony, under the supervision of a European doctor.

At the Magistracy this morning Constable Campbell, who is on patrol duty near Lai-chi-kok, charged twelve sampan owners with leaving the waters of the Colony on the 28th inst. without obtaining the requisite permit. All the men were fined small sums. Constable Campbell charged the master of a licensed boat and the master of the steam launch *Wing Loi*, with not removing plague patients to hospitals in the Colony on the 28th inst. On board the sampan the constable found a man suffering from plague.

As the master had already been fined \$2 for leaving the waters of the Colony without a permit the case was dismissed. A woman was found on board the launch. She was evidently suffering from plague, and was being accompanied by her husband to the hospital at Lai-chi-kok. A fine of \$10 was imposed. Cheung On, boatman, was charged by Constable Campbell with leaving the waters of the Colony without a clearance and with failing to take a plague patient to hospital in Hongkong.

Defendant stated that he was engaged by the Tung Wah authorities to convey this patient to Lai-chi-kok. He was convicted of leaving the waters of the Colony without a clearance, and was fined \$5. A similar fine was inflicted upon a boatman detected by Constable Kerr on his way to Lai-chi-kok with another patient.

The following are the statistics for the twenty-four hours to noon to-day:—

Admissions	Deaths	Discharges	Under-treatment	Recovered	Unrecovered	Total
11	38	29	1	147	1	187

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## THE YOKO OF THE VIRGIN.

In a review of 'A Yellow Aster,' the New York *Nation* writes as follows:—

Our unappreciated novelists and miscellaneous writers have long enjoyed an enduring fame for times of death, to wit, the feebleness of modern English fiction, the reason for which, it is unanimously agreed, may be found in a fatal error, standing with the public that the young girl is not to be shocked. The tone of these perennial articles has always been despondent because no one could hit on a practicable scheme for eliminating the taint of blood from the system, and it has seemed hopeless to urge the passing of a law declaring it immoral for her to learn to read before she has ceased to be young or a girl and making infirmity a penal offence. Deep depression has in consequence settled down upon those among us who crave powerful and inspiring action, and a conviction that, as the young girl cannot get rid of it, we must be at the pains of acquiring foreign tongues.

But when the time is ripe for reform, deliverance is usually close at hand. In antiquity the household gods protected the nation from the taint of blood, and it is not surprising that there has at last arisen in England a band of untrammelled spirits (feminine) to whom this ridiculous deference to virginity is intolerable, and who have apparently sworn to shatter the fetish.

Any responsible object of reverence which they may need upon their way they promptly fling a quick at, for how shall superstition be extinguished if the least of idols be left intact in the shelter of a shrine?

The speed with which this spirited band has accomplished its object is a severe reproach to those who have so long protested without suggestion and young men to disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young men into disquisition and the neglect of a hitherto reliable source of income, it is no more than they deserve for their dulness and fatal lack of enterprise. They must see that their occupation is gone, for when their bugaboo, the maiden, can be heard at every corner entering diffident young



